

Harnessing Integrated Apps on the Mac: Language Arts

April 20, 2009

Hands-On Simulated Video Project

We are going to do a highly abridged simulation of a student project using integrated Mac applications.

The project will address PA Standard 1.3: Reading, Analyzing and Interpreting Literature, specifically at Grade 11:

- C. Analyze the effectiveness, in terms of literary quality, of the author's use of literary devices.
 - Sound techniques (e.g., rhyme, rhythm, meter, alliteration)
 - Figurative language (e.g., personification, simile, metaphor, hyperbole, irony, satire)
 - Literary structures (e.g., foreshadowing, flashbacks, progressive and digressive time)
- D. Analyze and evaluate in poetry the appropriateness of diction and figurative language (e.g., irony, understatement, overstatement, paradox).
- E. Analyze how a scriptwriter's use of words creates tone and mood, and how choice of words advances the theme or purpose of the work.
- F. Read and respond to nonfiction and fiction including poetry and drama.

We will use Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet as the focus of your project to analyze one literary device for its impact on the reader/listener/viewer and produce an interpretive reading or dramatization along with at least one photo showing the impact or impression the work had on you.

1. Open Safari (from Dock or Applications folder)

- Go to URL: <http://cffcollabday.wikispaces.com/English+-+April+20%2C+2009>
- Select "Harnessing Integrated Apps on the Mac" link
- Complete the two initial surveys & return to the wiki page (control-click and open survey URL in new Tab or new Window)
- Click Session Files and Links (from Table of Contents at top of the wiki page)
 - Decide which scene you want to use and click the appropriate link
 - Save the scene you've selected as a PDF (Print-->Save as PDF from lower left button); save on Desktop or in your Documents folder
- Capture an image of Shakespeare from the first image link on the wiki
 - Control-click (or right click with a two-button mouse) on the image
 - select "Add image to iPhoto library" from the context menu
 - click the Safari Back arrow to return to the wiki page
- Capture an image of the Globe Theater
 - Select one or more of the Globe Theater links
 - Control-click (or right click with a two-button mouse) on the image
 - Select "Add image to iPhoto library" from the context menu

- Click the Safari Back arrow to return to the wiki page
- Capture other photos or clips to associate with the scene if time permits
- Select and download one or two color background files to reinforce an emotion or feeling in your scene
 - Visit either of the wiki links to Background images for Photo Booth
 - Select one or more colors
 - Control-click (or right click with a 2-button mouse) on the image(s)
 - Select “Add image to iPhoto library” from the context menu
 - click the Safari Back arrow to return to the wiki page
 - repeat as needed for additional background images

2. Open iPhoto (from Dock or Applications folder)

- Select Events
- Select all images collected
- Select File menu --> New Album from Selection and name it “RomeoandJuliet” or “Shakespeare”
- Keep iPhoto open in the background (use Command-Tab to switch between apps)

3. Open Preview

- Open the PDF you saved in Preview
- If the Annotation and Mark Up Tools are not in the tool bar, open “View-->Customize Toolbar...” and add them
- Select and highlight spoken lines of a passage of no more than about 20 to 30 lines
- Mark up the lines demonstrating at least one literary device; Add comment to identify the device used
- Add comments to guide interpretive reading/performance
 - Be creative, consider alternatives to the typical interpretation; don’t be afraid to give it a twist for fun!
 - Try to emphasize the literary device.
- Save the PDF with your annotations and comments. Quit Preview.

4. Open Photo Booth (from Dock or Applications folder)

- Add solid color backgrounds
 - Click the Effects button
 - Re-size and position the Photo Booth and iPhoto windows so you can also see both on your screen; display the color background images in iPhoto
 - Drag your color background(s) to any pane in Photo Booth around the outside of the Normal view
 - Click the pane with the color you want to use as a background
 - Move out of camera view when prompted and wait until the background color fills the screen
- Take still photos of one or two facial expressions or poses depicting emotions or events related to your passage
 - select single photo icon (far left in tool bar)
 - pose on the screen
 - click the red shutter button; wait for count down
 - repeat as needed, changing the background color if necessary

- Select each photo you want to use in the bottom slide tray (shift-click for second and subsequent photos), click the iPhoto icon to add the photos to your iPhoto library
- In iPhoto, move these new photos to your RomeoandJuliet or Shakespeare Album
- Quit both the Photo Booth and iPhoto applications

5. Open iMovie (from Dock or Applications folder)

- Start a new project (File-->New Project...) with Standard (4:3) Aspect Ratio
- Add at least three still photos to the beginning of the project including at least one expression or pose photo from Photo Booth.
 - Show Photos window (click camera icon - right of tool bar) and select the album you created above.
 - Drag photos to Timeline (top center window)
 - Click duration icon in lower left of a photo in timeline
 - change duration to 10 seconds
 - select "Applies to all photos" if you have more than one
 - Click the Crop icon (second from upper left)
 - For the initial, title slide, click Fit in the Viewer window
 - For subsequent slides, click the Ken Burns option
 - Click the green Start and red End boxes to control how the photo pans
 - Alternate panning in (large green, small red box) and panning out
 - Click Done in the Viewer
- Record Passage
 - Click the camera icon (left-most on center tool bar)
 - Click the Capture button (bottom right)
 - Select "Create new Event" if not already selected. The date should be today's date from your system settings. (If not, it should be re-set in System Settings. If it won't hold, see your technical support folks for a new internal battery.)
 - Click OK and begin recording.
 - When finished, click Stop (bottom right).
 - After the video renders, click Done (bottom right). The clip will appear in the New Event library created for today. Drag the video clip to the Project timeline above.
- Add Transitions
 - Drag Cross Dissolve between all clips in the Project window. Cross Dissolve or Fade Through Black or White are the most common and least noticeable transitions but keep the changes from one clip to another from being too abrupt for the viewer.

Extensions for students:

Have students record a voice-over to introduce the video and provide context for the selected passage -- what comes before and/or after in the play. Following the dramatic reading, have students script and record an interview with one of the characters from their passage about the scene to reinforce their interpretation of the passage. Have them discuss the impact of a literary device on the passage. Have students research other aspects of the play and find appropriate photos to include in the podcast. Have students create their own musical background in GarageBand to support their interpretation of the passage they select.

- If the transition is too unusual, however, it can distract from the video. Use special transitions sparingly and only for an appropriate affect that adds to the concept.
- Optional if time allows
 - Add a title to the beginning of the project
 - Add another still photo and credits to the end of the project
 - Add voice-over narration to the still clips before and/or after your video clip.
- Export to File
 - Share --> Export Movie
 - Select Medium size or smaller to minimize file size and time to export
 - Name the movie but be sure to keep the .m4v extension; save on Desktop or in your Documents folder.
 - Quit iMovie.
- Double-click your .m4a podcast file to view it in iTunes
- Other options for the classroom
 - use iDVD to burn a copy of the project(s)
 - compare and contrast student labs; account for observed variance
 - use exported movie in Keynote presentation

6. Reflection and Evaluation

- How else could the creation of videos using iMovie help students learn and demonstrate their understanding in your Language Arts classroom?
- Complete the End-of-Session Survey